

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SLBJECT: TRAVELLING PRESS REPORTAGE, THURSDAY MORNING,
DECEMBER 9, 1976.

NO. 10

WIRES:

1. (UPI ANDERSON FROM BRUSSELS)

IN A MESSAGE DELIVERED TODAY BY KISSINGER, CARTER PLEDGED
THAT THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO NATO WILL BE "SUSTAINED
AND STRENGTHENED."

(JIM THEN FOLLOWED WITH A 2 GRAF QUOTE)

IT WAS LIKELY TO BE KISSINGER'S FINAL APPEARANCE BEFORE
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND PARTICIPANTS SAID IT
WAS AN EMOTIONAL MOMENT FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND
HIS NATO COLLEAGUES, MOST OF WHOM HE HAS DEALT CLOSELY
WITH DURING HIS PAST THREE YEARS IN OFFICE.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

THE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE NATO COUNCIL, PORTUGUESE
FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE MEDEIROS FERREIRA, SAID THE COUNCIL

"WITH THE GREATEST REGRET WAS SAYING FAREWELL TO AN

EMINENT FIGURE OF WORLD DIPLOMACY THAT LEFT AND INDELIBLE MARK."

ONE PARTICIPANT SAID KISSINGER APPEARED CLOSE TO TEARS AS FERREIRA SPOKE.

KISSINGER'S SPEECH TO THE COUNCIL DWELT ON THE SAME THEME THAT CARTER STRESSED IN HIS MESSAGE, CONTINUITY OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY.

BEFORE THE COUNCIL SESSION, KISSINGER TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE WOULD LEAVE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY "IN EXCELLENT HANDS" WHEN HE LEFT OFFICE JAN. 20.

"I FEEL VERY FINE AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MY COLLEAGUES (AFTER LEAVING OFFICE)," HE SAID AFTER BREAKFAST WITH CAGLAYANGIL. "I KNOW I'M LEAVING THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES IN EXCELLENT HANDS."

KISSINGER, HO MET WEDNESDAY WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF WEST GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, BRITAIN AND FRANCE, ASSURED CAGLAYANGIL THAT AMERICA UNDER THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE SOLUTIONS TO GRECO-TURKISH PROBLEMS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN -- PRINCIPALLY THE DISPUTES OVER CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN SEABED.

"I KNOW PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER IS INTERESTED IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND THAT HE WILL EXERT HIS EFFORTS IN THAT DIRECTION," KISSINGER SAID.

THE SECRETARY, DRESSED IN A GRAY PIN-STRIPED SUIT AND VEST AND RED TIE, ALSO PRAISED HIS SUCCESSOR, CYRUS VANCE, AS A MAN CAPABLE OF WORKING TOWARD A SOLUTION OF THE GRECO-TURKISH DISPUTES.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

(EARLIER, UPI ALSO RAN AN ANDERSON CURTAIN-RAISER ON THE MEETING).

2. (AP, NO BYLINE FROM BRUSSELS)

OUTGOING U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE, HENRY A. KISSINGER DELIVERED A LAST WARNING TO NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS TODAY -- THAT GROWING SOVIET ECONOMIC POWER MEANS GROWING MILITARY POWER, SOURCES SAID.

KISSINGER ALSO BROUGHT A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT

JIMMY CARTER SAYING THAT AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO NATO

"SHALL BE SUSTAINED AND STRENGTHENED."

THE TWO-DAY SESSION IS KISSINGER'S LAST NATO MEETING AS A MEMBER OF PRESIDENT FORD'S ADMINISTRATION.

ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE WHO ATTENDED THE CLOSED-DOOR SESSION, KISSINGER TOLD THE MINISTERS THAT THE BROAD OUTLINES OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE THE SAME UNDER THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AS THEY WERE UNDER PRESIDENT FORD.

OFFICIALS SAID KISSINGER TOLD THE MINISTERS:

-- NATO IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INSTRUMENT OF WESTERN COOPERATION AND SHOULD BE USED FOR MORE THAN JUST MILITARY PURPOSES.

-- MAINTENANCE OF THE MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST SHOULD REMAIN ITS TOP AIM.

-- HE OPPOSED THE SOVIET PROPOSAL TO BAN THE FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BECAUSE THE BALANCE OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAS NEVER PREVENTED WAR, AND SUCH A BAN WOULD REDUCE THE UNCERTAINTY WHICH IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF DETERRING A SOVIET ATTACK.

-- THE WEST HAS NO REASON FOR PESSIMISM IF ITS TECHNOLOGICAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL ABILITIES ARE USED TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

FULL.

-- EVERY OCCASION SHOULD BE SEIZED TO MAKE PEACE MORE SECURE.

-- COMMUNISM IS ONLY ACQUIRING FOLLOWERS IN COUNTRIES WHERE THE COMMUNISTS ARE NOT IN POWER. IT IS GIVING RISE TO A KIND OF NATIONALISM WHICH HAS LONG BEEN OUT OF DATE IN WESTERN COUNTRIES.

-- THE COMMUNISTS HAVE MADE LITTLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE POOR COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD -- 90 PERCENT OF THE AID THEY GET COMES FROM THE WEST.

3. (LATE UPI PIECE BY JIM ANDERSON FROM BRUSSELS COVERED HAK'S SPEECH TO NAC. KEY POINTS MENTIONED WERE:)

-- U.S.S.R.'S MILITARY BUILDUP PARALLELED INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN

MOSCOW HAS IMPERIAL DESIGNS;

-- ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN BALANCE OF STRENGTH, BUT
U.S.S.R. DOES NOT INTEND TO ATTACK WEST.

-- SOVIETS LACK AN ADULT WORLD VISION ABOUT SUCH
PROBLEMS AS DEVELOPMENT AID AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT
PROTECTION.

-- U.S.S.R. USES ITS STRENGTH IN AN OPPORTUNISTIC MANNER,
BUT THEIR INFLUENCE HAS DECLINED IN THE MIDDLE EAST,
WHERE CHANCES FOR A SETTLEMENT HAVE NEVER SEEMED SO GOOD.

-- U.S. TOOK INITIATIVE ON RHODESIA BECAUSE IT DID
NOT WANT TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH THE DEFENSE OF THE PRIVI-
LEGED POSITION OF THE WHITE SETTLERS.

-- CONTINUING POSSIBILITIES FOR FRUITFUL RELATIONSHIP
WITH PRC SO LONG AS IT HAS CONFIDENCE IN U.S. ABILITY
TO BE COUNTERWEIGHT TO U.S.S.R. ISOLATIONISM IN U.S.
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

MIGHT SAP THIS CONFIDENCE.

HAK SPEECH EXCERPTS WERE SOURCED TO "CONFERENCE SOURCES."

NEWSPAPERS:

SUTHERLAND, GWERTZMAN, WALLACH AND KEATLEY ALL HAD STORIES
ON AWACS. SUMMARIES FOLLOW:

1. SUTHERLAND, CSM: DESPITE CARTER'S CAMPAIGN DECLARA-
TIONS ABOUT DEFENSE CUTS, THE MAIN MESSAGE COMING OUT
OF NATO IS THAT A CONTINUING SOVIET BUILDUP IN CENTRAL
EUROPE REQUIRES SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN SPENDING BY THE
ALLIANCE. WESTERN DIPLOMATS HAVE FOUND CARTER'S EMPHASIS
ON NATO REASSURING, AND VANCE'S APPOINTMENT EVEN MORE
REASSURING. CONCERN THAT WEST IS LETTING DOWN ITS GUARD
HAS LED TO A STRONG COMMUNIQUE. THE MAJOR WORRY IS
THAT THE SOVIETS MAY TURN THEIR STRENGTH INTO POLITICAL
LEVERAGE OVER WESTERN EUROPE. SUTHERLAND QUOTED EXTENSIVE-
LY FROM REMARKS BY ADM. HILL-NORTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE
NATO MILITARY COMMITTEE. DESPITE WORRIES, THERE IS
HESITATION AND DELAY, SYMBOLIZED BY THE POSTPONEMENT OF
A DECISION ON AWACS.

2. KEATLEY, WSJ: THE DEFENSE MINISTERS OF NATO ALMOST,
BUT NOT QUITE, DECIDED TO BUY AN AMERICAN AWACS. CHANCES
OF FINAL APPROVAL SEEM GOOD, A DECISION THAT WILL BOTH
HELP NATO'S EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS AND BOLSTER U.S.
EXPORTS. NATO DEFENSE MINISTERS WILL MEET EARLY NEXT
YEAR TO CONSIDER PURCHASE DECISION. IN MEANTIME,
MEMBERS WILL TRY TO APPORTION EXPENSE. U.S. HAS PROMISED

TO AWARD 25 PERCENT OF CONTRACTS TO EUROPEANS AND PAY 30 PERCENT OF OPERATING COSTS. U.S. OFFICIALS ARE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT GETTING A POSITIVE DECISION. RUMSFELD CALLED IT A GOOD MEETING.

3. GWERTZMAN, NYTIMES - (PAGE 1).

AN AMERICAN EFFORT TO GET AWACS APPROVED RAN INTO FINANCIAL OBJECTIONS FROM "HARD-PRESSED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES" AND A DECISION WAS DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT YEAR. POST-UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

PONEMENT DISAPPOINTED SOME AMERICAN OFFICIALS AT NATO MEETING, BUT RUMSFELD HAD POSITIVE VIEW. HIGH-LEVEL EXPERT MEETING WILL BE CALLED EARLY NEXT MONTH, WITH DEFENSE MINISTER MEETING FOLLOWING TO ENDORSE ANY DECISION. GWERTZMAN HAD EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND ON THE SYSTEM AND THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF EARLY WARNING.

ON OTHER SUBJECTS, BERNIE NOTED THAT LUNS REJECTED WARSAW PACT'S CALL FOR RENUNCIATION OF FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

FINAL GRAF DEALT WITH SECRETARY'S ACTIVITIES, SAYING HE WAS CONFERRING PRIVATELY WITH A NUMBER OF FORNMINS AND HASSAN OF JORDAN. "MR KISSINGER WILL MAKE HIS FINAL APPEARANCE AT THE ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS TOMORROW AND FRIDAY BEFORE FLYING TO LONDON FOR TWO DAYS OF TALKS THAT WILL COMPLETE HIS LAST OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT."

4. WALLACH, BOSTON HERALD-AMERICAN

TWO DECISIONS OF MAJOR CONSEQUENCE OF U.S. AND EUROPE EMERGED HERE MITH "BOTH ACTIONS ASSURED IN ADVANCE OF STRONG SUPPORT FROM THE INCOMING CARTER ADMINISTRATION." THEY ARE (1) A DECISION 'IN PRINCIPLE' TO BUY A U.S. AWACS, AND (2) A DECISION FOR THE FIRST TIME TO INVITE SPAIN TO PARTICIPATE AS AN OBSERVER AT NATO MEETINGS AFTER FREE ELECTIONS ARE HELD IN SPAIN NEXT MARCH, AND TO PROVIDE FOR FULL SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO BY SPRING 1978. BOTH DECISIONS WERE REPORTEDLY ENDORSED BY HAK AND REPRESENT IMPORTANT REBUFFS TO SOVIETS.

JOHN ALSO HAD SOME BACKGROUND ON THE AWACS SYSTEM AND THE PROBLEM NECESSITATING IT. HE NOTES THAT DECISION TO INVITE SPAIN IS DELIBERATE RESPONSE TO WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL TO FREEZE MEMBERSHIP OF THE TWO ALLIANCES. ALSO MENTIONED IS REJECTION OF WARSAW PROPOSAL RENOUNCING FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, SUPPOSEDLY OFFERED IN RESPONSE TO RAPID ADVANCES IN FRENCH NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY.

RADIO/TV:
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

1. BERNARD KALB, CBS RADIO, WEDNESDAY EVENING DEC. 8.

THERE WERE A LOT OF DIPLOMATIC 'ORDS THAT ADDED UP TO A POSTPONEMENT OF A DECISION ON AWACS. THIS IS THE AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM AIMED AT FILLING ONE OF THE GAPS IN THE NATO DEFENSES, -- BY 'SING RADER-EQUIPPED AIRCRAFT TO SPOT LOW FLYING PLANES, AND THEREBY AVERT ANY SURPRISE ATTACK FROM THE EAST. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN PUSHING FOR AN ALLIED GO-AHEAD TO PROCEED ITH THIS SYSTEM. DEFENSE SECRETARY RUMSFELD TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE WAY THINGS WENT. BY CONTRAST, SOME ANALYSTS OF NATO SUGGESTED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD CLEARLY FALLEN SHORT IN ITS EFFORT TO WIN FINAL APPROVAL AT THIS TIME FOR THE A ACS PACKAGE. ONE MAJOR OBSTACLE AS SAID TO BE THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE WEST GERMANS. THEY ARGUE THAT, ITH A NE' GOV-ERNMENT ONLY RECENTLY ELECTED, THEY NEEDED MORE TIME TO STUDY AWAC'S FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. THE UPSHOT WAS A FORMAL DECISION TO CALL A MEETING EARLY NEXT MONTH OF MONEY EXPERTS, THIS TO BE FOLLOWED BY A MEETING OF DEFENSE MINISTERS TO REACH A FINAL DECISION ON AWACS. U.S. SOURCES ESTIMATED THE TOTAL COST OF THE SYSTEM AT ALMOST \$2.5 BILLION DOLLARS, WITH THE UNITED STATES PICKING UP ABOUT A QUARTER OF THE COST.

2. BERNARD KALB, CBS RADIO, THURSDAY MORNING DEC. 9.

THE MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT, WHICH WAS RELAYED 0Y SECRETARY KISSINGER, MADE FOR GOOD LISTENING HERE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS, -- MR. CARTER DECLARING THAT THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ALLIANCE SHALL BE SUSTAINED AND STRENGTHENED UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION, ADDING, "I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH ALL THE GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED AT THIS MEETING."

ONLY YESTERDAY, THE DEFENSE MINISTERS OF THE NATO COUNTRIES APPEALED FOR MORE MONEY TO BE SPENT ON DEFENSE, WHICH CONTRASTS WITH MR. CARTER'S OWN POSITION TO TRY TO TRIM T'E PENTAGON BUDGET. THE IDEA OF THE CARTER
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 299593 TOSEC 320128

MESSAGE TO NATO GREW OUT OF THE CARTER-KISSINGER MEETING THAT TOOK PLACE IN PLAINS, GEORGIA LAST MONTH. FOR HIS OWN PART, KISSINGER PROVIDED A REVIE'OF THE WORLD SITUATION, PRESUMABLY INCLUDING HIS OWN ASSESSMENT OF WHAT U.S. OFFICIALS CALL "THE SOVIET THREAT." BUT SO FAR,

NO DETAILS BY U.S. SPOKESMEN ON THE SECRETARY'S OFF-THE-RECORD SPEECH.

THROUGHOUT, KISSINGER HAS SOUGHT TO PROJECT AN IMAGE OF DIPLOMATIC BUSINESS AS USUAL, BUT HE'S AWARE THAT JANUARY 20 IS CREEPING UP ON HIM, -- HIS LATEST ONE-LINE JOKE A TESTIMONIAL TO THAT POLITICAL FACT OF LIFE. AT ONE POINT, AS CAMERAMEN WERE FURIOUSLY CLICKING AWAY, KISSINGER QUIPPED, "THEY'RE TAKING PICTURES OF ME AS THOUGH I WERE A CORPSE."

3. BARRY SCHWEID, WTOP RADIO, THURSDAY MORNING DEC. 9.

THE NATO DEFENSE MINISTERS HAVE REACHED GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THEY NEED TO UPGRADE THEIR AGING AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM TO GUARD AGAINST A SNEAK SOVIET ATTACK. BUT LED BY WEST GERMANY AND ITALY, THE ALLIES PUT OFF A FINAL DECISION TO PURCHASE 27 BOEING RADER COMMAND PLANES AT A COST OF \$2.5 BILLION. A COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE TWO-DAY MEETING IN BRUSSELS SAID FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE DEAL 'OULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN UP BY EXPERTS IN JANUARY. A FINAL DECISION WOULD THEN BE UP TO THE DEFENSE MINISTERS.

ACCORDING TO DONALD RUMSFELD, THE AMERICA' DEFENSE SECRETARY, THE OUTCOME IS VERY ENCOURAGTNG, RUMSFELD TELLING REPORTERS THERE WAS REAL RECOGNITION THAT THE AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IS A NECESSITY.

ROBINSON

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